



ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK
ST. JOHN, THE BELOVED DISCIPLE - IMPERIAL

ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



GUIDING TEXTS

REV. 21:3-5

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”





GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."

But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.





GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century

A Renewed Church

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

A Renewed Mission

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

A Vibrant Future

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.



ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

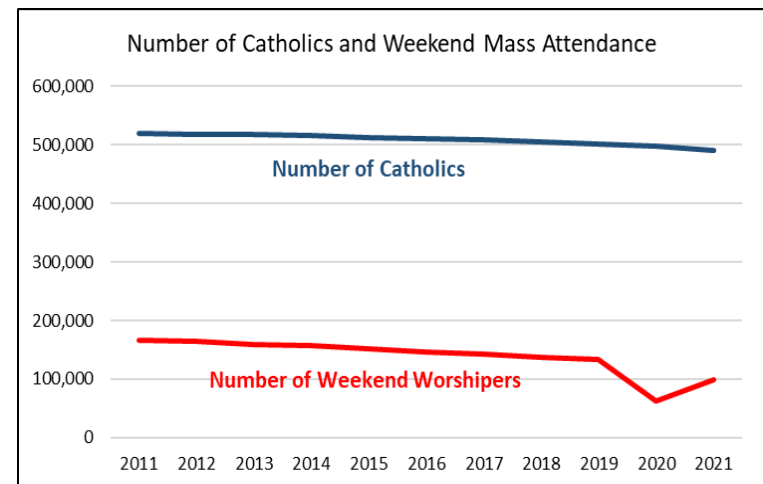
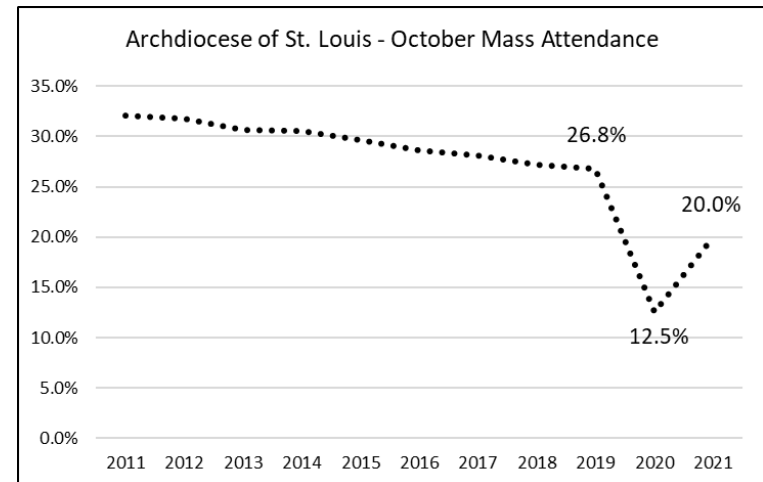
The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.



WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
 - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
 - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
 - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



Number of Priests *	49	46	38	27	50
Ratio of Parishioners to Priests	619	1,416	1,996	2,704	3,411

* Includes diocesan and religious order priests



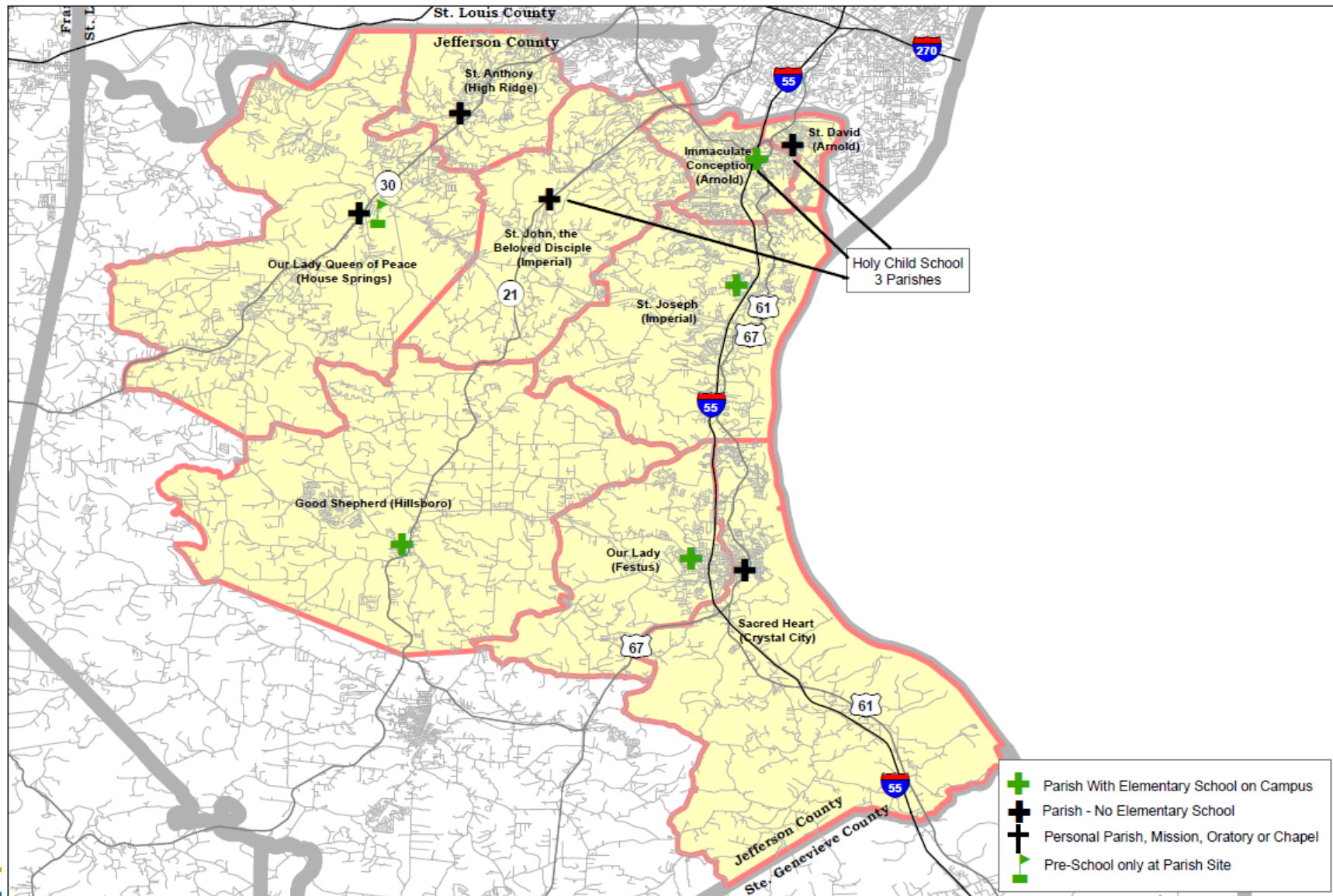


ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PLANNING AREA
PLANNING AREA #13

OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in Jefferson County. The geography of this area is defined by Interstate 55, Routes 30 and 21, Meramec River to the north and the Mississippi River to the east.
- Located in Festus deanery. There are 9 territorial parishes and 4 elementary schools. Currently there are 11 diocesan priests assigned to this group.
- Parishes and church buildings are located along Interstate 55, Highway 21, and Highway 30, but east-west travel is difficult.



OUR PLANNING AREA HAS BEEN GROWING SLIGHTLY, WITH AN AGING POPULATION

- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was up 4% from 2010.
- The population 55 or older increased from 18% in 2000 to 29% in 2020.
- 15% of the population is registered Catholic, which is lower than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Median household income in the area is \$66,481, which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



OUR PLANNING AREA

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	1990	2000	2010	2020
Population	131,807	152,971	174,093	181,798
Percent Change		16%	14%	4%
Households	44,990	54,736	64,458	69,209
Percent Change		22%	18%	7%
Population				
White	129,808	149,097	167,905	164,493
Percent of Total	98%	97%	96%	90%
Black	1,009	1,064	1,470	1,910
Percent of Total	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other/Multi-Race	991	2,811	4,718	15,395
Percent of Total	1%	2%	3%	8%
Hispanic (not a race)	914	1,568	2,772	4,340
Percent of Total	1%	1%	2%	2%
% of Population Age 55+	15%	18%	23%	29%

2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 20%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 21%

Median Household Income

Planning Area \$ 66,481

Archdiocese \$ 60,700

2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Planning Area 15%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area 1,001

2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

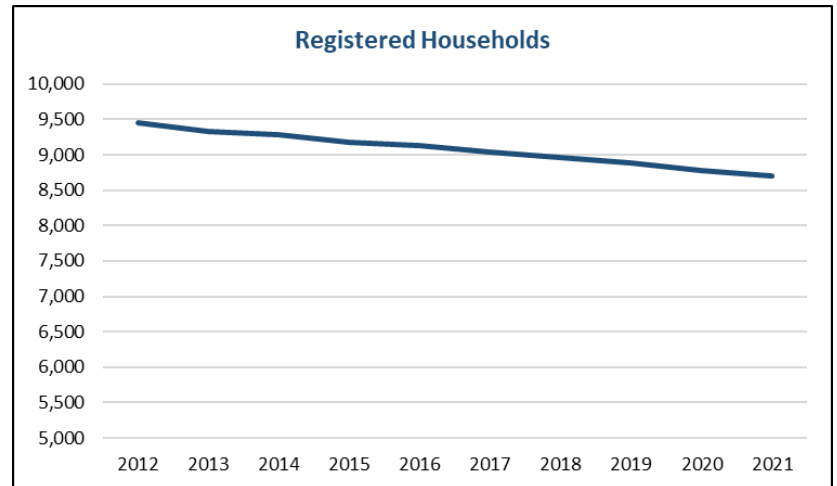
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools 84%



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

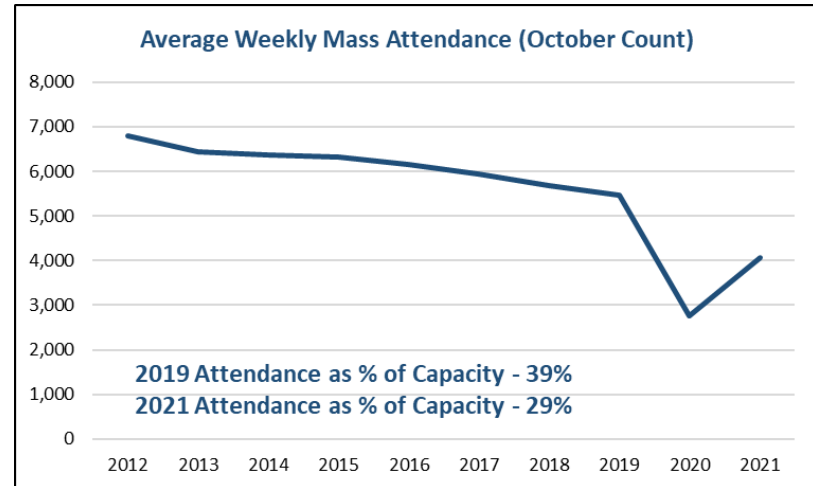
- Registered households in the planning area declined by 8% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

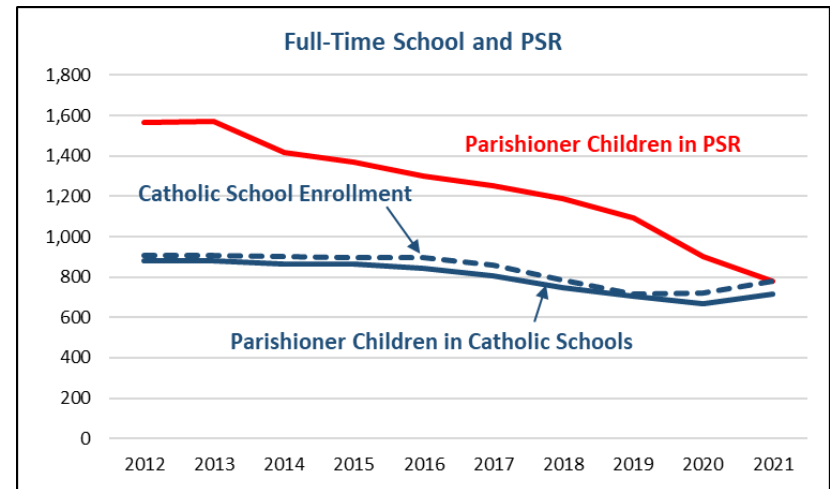
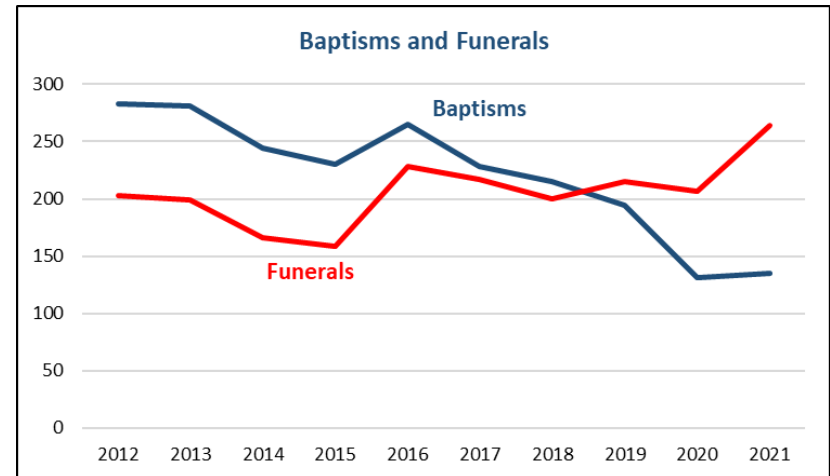
- Mass attendance declined 30% during the decade, the same the archdiocese as a whole.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity was above the archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- Baptisms have been declining and funerals increasing, though the 2020 and 2021 funeral counts are impacted by a parish that has a special and significant funeral ministry.
- Catholic school enrollment has decline by 14% during the past decade, compared to 22% for the diocese as a whole.
- PSR enrollment declined by 50% during the past decade, the 2nd largest decline of any planning area.



OUR PLANNING AREA

MINISTRY TRENDS

	Registered Parishioner Households		Number of Catholics	Weekend Mass Attendance		Church Capacity	Baptisms	Funerals	Parishioner Children in:	
							Five Year Average 2017-2021		Catholic Schools (Include Privates)	Traditional PSR
	2011	2021	2021	2019	2021				2021-22	2021-22
Good Shepherd (Hillsborro)	662	615	1,680	443	324	140	11	13	52	44
Immaculate Conception (Arnold)	1,470	1,319	3,945	675	384	400	29	28	150	120
Our Lady (Festus)	985	971	2,569	648	609	530	23	23	136	84
Our Lady Queen of Peace (House Springs)	1,100	779	2,150	486	353	600	15	32	28	80
Sacred Heart (Crystal City)	1,155	1,120	2,625	555	403	316	12	46	22	55
St. Anthony (High Ridge)	895	885	2,510	n/a *	n/a *	350	14	15	27	112
St. David (Arnold)	712	638	1,715	438	327	500	10	13	14	45
St. John, the Beloved Disciple (Imperial)	467	393	1,070	320	227	350	8	26	8	26
St. Joseph (Imperial)	1,985	1,975	6,230	1,450	1,090	500	59	26	279	216
TOTAL	9,431	8,695	24,494	5,015	3,717		181	221	716	782

* St. Anthony (High Ridge) parish does not participate in the October Mass Counts



OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS DECLINING

- The four elementary schools in this planning area have 781 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 13% from 5 years ago.
- Most schools draw heavily from outside their parish boundaries.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 716.
- There are 782 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 40% from 5 years earlier.



OUR PLANNING AREA

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22 vs 2016-17	2021-22	2021-22
	Enrollment (K-8)	Enrollment (Pre-K) PK 3-4 & PK 4-5	5 Year Percent Change in (K-8) Enrollment	% K-8 Students Registered in Parish	% K-8 Students Living in Parish Boundaries
Good Shepherd - Hillsboro	77	37	5%	58%	58%
Holy Child School - Arnold (3 parishes)	201	58	2%	80%	62%
Our Lady - Festus	170	56	(34%)	73%	41%
St. Joseph - Imperial	333	88	27%	81%	55%
TOTAL (% Change includes schools that closed)	781	239	(13%)	n/a	n/a





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OUR PARISH
ST. JOHN, THE BELOVED DISCIPLE - IMPERIAL

ABOUT OUR PARISH

- St. John parish was established in 1871 in a community referred to as Rock Creek to relieve the burden of the pastor of Immaculate Conception in Arnold who had been ministering to southern St. Louis County and northern Jefferson County. The parish grew and declined over the decades. A school was established from the beginning of the parish and over the decades would occasionally close and reopen. The parish school finally closed in 2007 and joined with Immaculate Conception (Arnold) and St. David (Arnold) to support Holy Child School.
- This is a parish of just under 400 households. A new parish church opened in 2011 and seats 350.



ABOUT OUR PARISH

- The parish area has been experiencing consistent double digit growth for each of the last 3 censuses, but the parish area is aging.
- The parish has been experiencing a decline in several parish metrics: households, Mass attendance, baptisms, and PSR enrollment.
- Offertory has been growing. The parish paid off the debt from the new church and reserves are growing.



OUR PARISH AREA HAS BEEN GROWING RAPIDLY DURING THE PAST SEVERAL DECADES

- The parish area has been experiencing steady double-digit growth over the past 3 decades.
 - Since Highway 21 bisects the parish and as Highway 21 expanded to 4 lanes, growth has continued along this corridor.
 - However, as east west transportation is not ideal, Catholics along the edges of the territory tend to belong to parishes based on location.
- The area is aging as the percent of Age 55+ persons has increased from 15% to 28% since 2000.
- Median household income is \$66,000 which is above the Diocesan average of \$60,700.
- 12% of the resident population is Catholic well below the archdiocesan average of 18%.



OUR PARISH

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

(U.S. Census Data)	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>
Population	12,989	14,593	16,791	19,278
Percent Change		12%	15%	15%
Households	4,374	5,164	6,174	7,185
Percent Change		18%	20%	16%
Population				
White	12,881	14,287	16,205	17,395
Percent of Total	99%	98%	97%	90%
Black	14	42	64	165
Percent of Total	0%	0%	0%	1%
Other/Multi-Race	95	264	521	1,717
Percent of Total	1%	2%	3%	9%
Hispanic (not a race)	103	161	329	509
Percent of Total	1%	1%	2%	3%
% of Population Age 55+	12%	15%	22%	28%

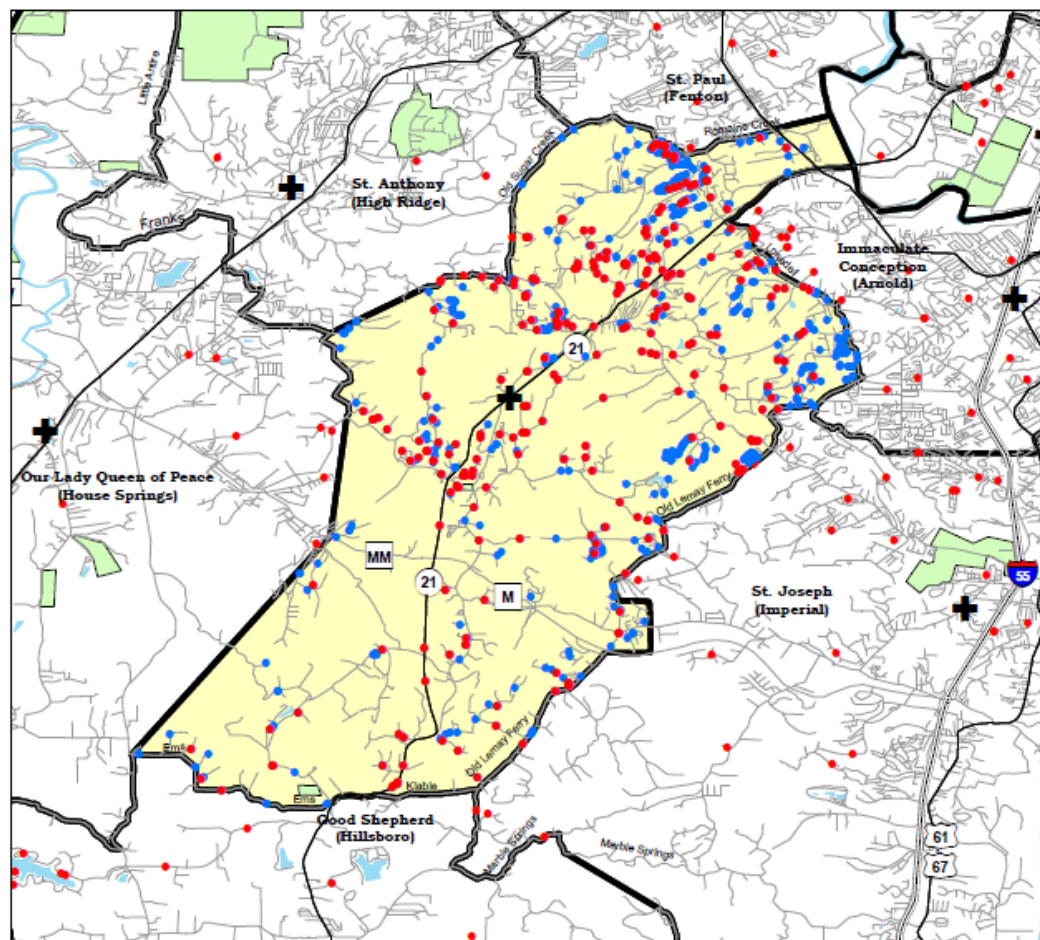
2020 Data	
% of Households - Renters	18%
% of Households - Single Person Living Alone	20%
<hr/>	
Median Household Income	
Parish Area	\$65,950
Archdiocese	\$60,700
2021 Data	
% of Population Registered Catholic	
Parish Area	12%
Archdiocese	18%
No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area	149
2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)	
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools	n/a



WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households in the boundaries that are registered at a different parish.
- St. John's territory has many more Catholic households in the boundaries (810) than there are parishioner households (391).
- This means that more Catholic households leave St. John parish area to affiliate with other parishes than there are Catholic households from outside the territory who are members of St. John parish.
- A very low percentage (34%) of Catholic households in the boundaries are parishioners. There are so many Catholics at the northern and eastern end of the parish who have affiliated with other parishes.

71 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries
34 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



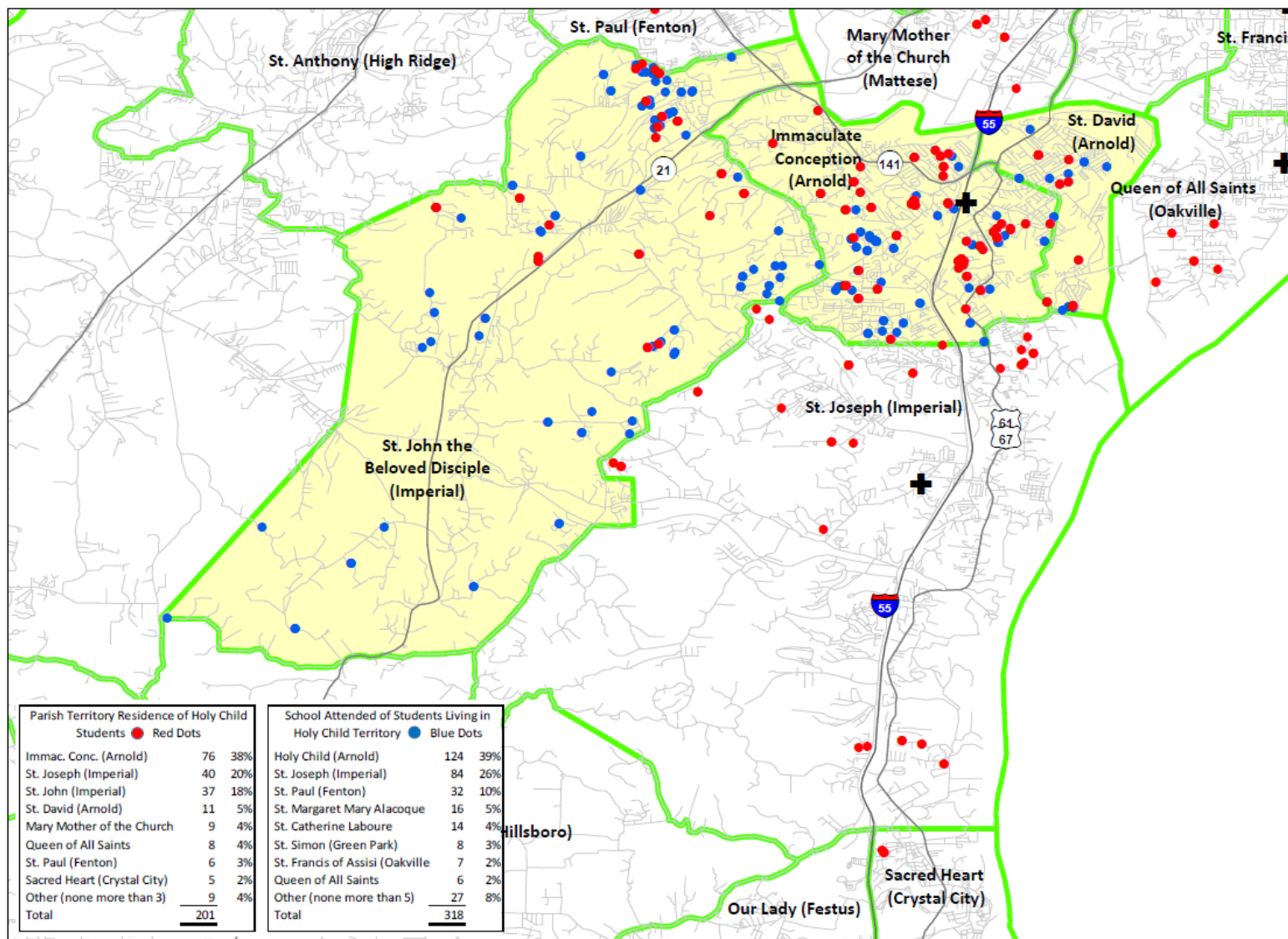
Residence of Parishioners			Parish Membership of HH in parish boundaries		
St. John - Imperial	277	71%	St. John - Imperial	277	34%
St. Joseph - Imperial	25		Immaculate Conc. - Arnold	128	
Immaculate Conc. - Arnold	25		St. Joseph - Imperial	120	
Good Shepherd - Hillsboro	19		St. Paul - Fenton	60	
Other	45		Other	225	
Total	391		Total	810	



WHERE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVE

Holy Child School (Arnold) - Residence of Students (K-8)
2021-22

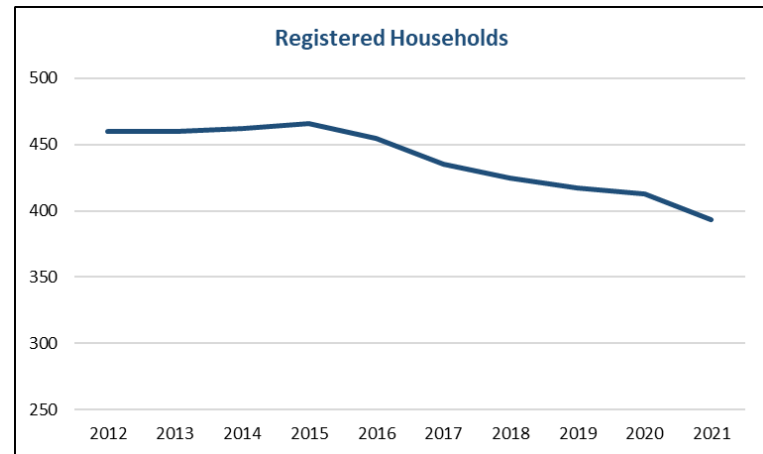
- 61% of Holy Child students live in the boundaries of the three sponsoring parishes.
- Only 39% of the Catholic school students living in the three parish territories are enrolled in Holy Child school



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

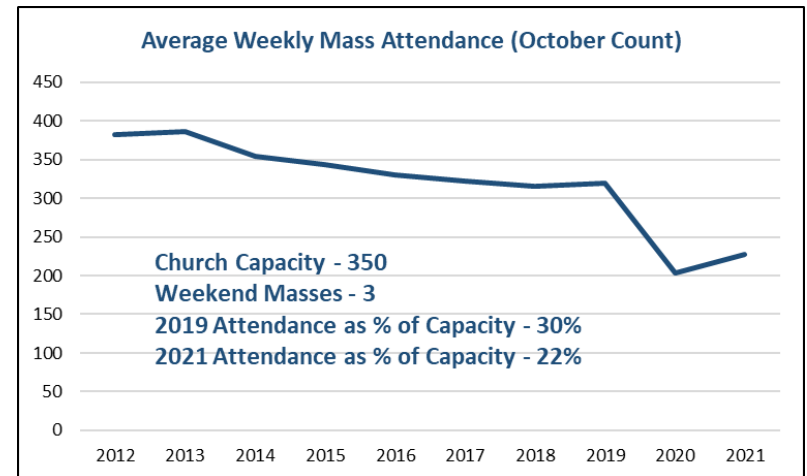
- Parishioner households have been declining rapidly during the past five years.
- Growth in Catholic households may be in the areas to the north and east and may be joining other parishes.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

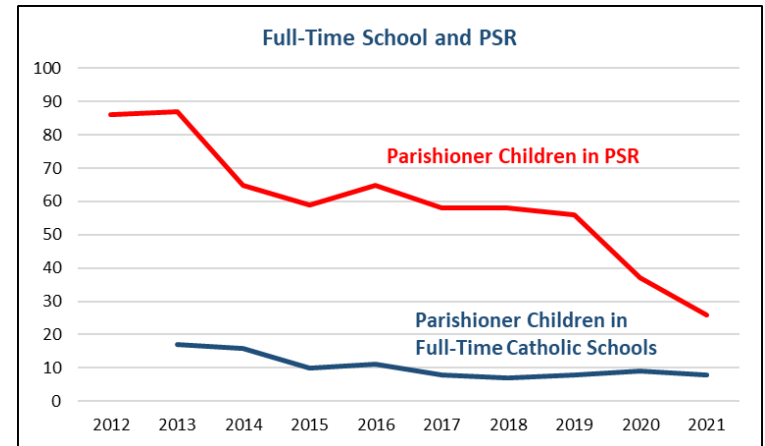
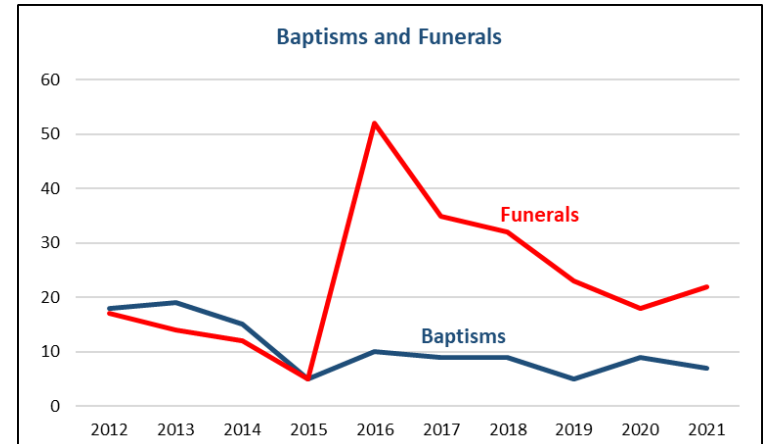
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance had been declining.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is slightly below the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance as percent of registered parishioners was 26-28%, just at the Archdiocesan average of 27-29%.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

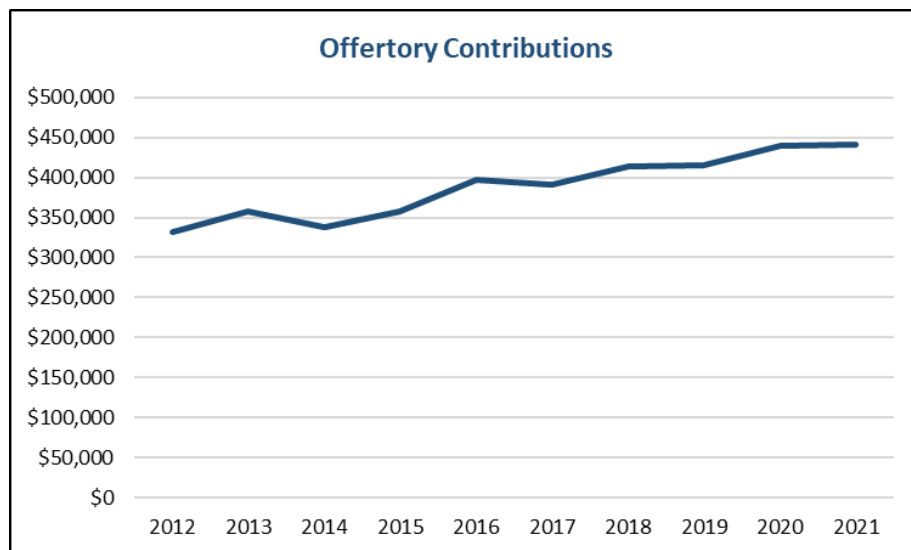
- This is an aging parish with funerals continuing to exceed baptisms. Baptisms have been on a decline.
- After the parish school closed in 2007, there are few parishioner children in Catholic schools. Likely those families joined the parishes where their children go to school.
- PSR has been on a steady and steep decline over the past decade.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

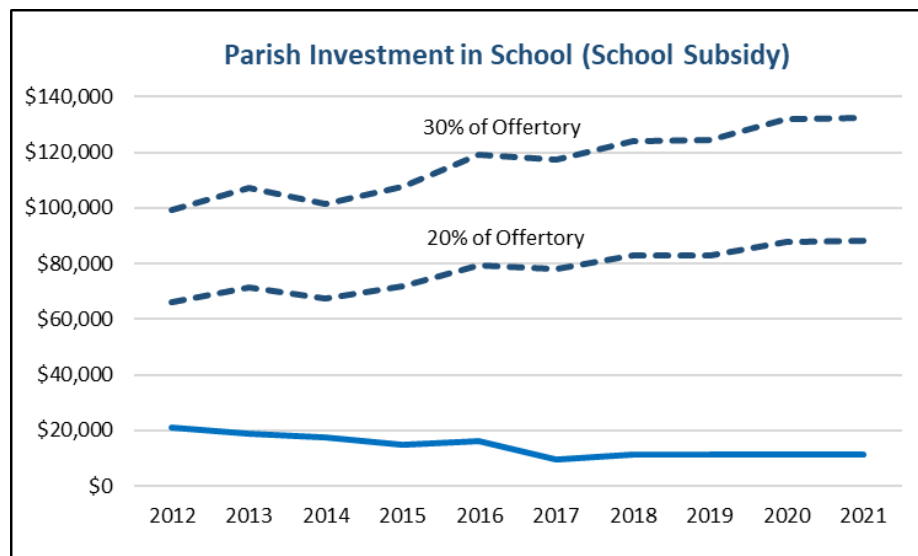
- Offertory has been increasing during the past decade even as the number of registered parishioners has declined.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- Parish investment in Holy Child School is well below the recommended 20-30% of offertory giving.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- The parish successfully paid off the debt of the new church and parish offices.
- With revenues continuing to be in excess of expense, parish reserves have been growing.

